



Lerner Jewish Community Day School
A Refreshing Approach to Jewish education

FAQ Sheet

1. My spouse is not Jewish. Is that a problem?

- 30% of Lerner families are interfaith
- Lerner is non-denominational, respecting all levels of observance
- Students learn tolerance & respect for one another, appreciating & celebrating differences
- Lerner serves as parents' *partner* in Jewish education

2. Do other subjects get short changed if the school spends so much time on Judaics?

- No. The Lerner School uses an Integrated Curriculum – Jewish themes are starting points for secular subjects (ex. Tu B'shvat & environmental studies; MLK b-day & slavery in Jewish history)
- Secular & Judaic studies teachers work together daily to discuss curriculum & lesson plans

3. What if my child has no prior Hebrew knowledge?

- Multiple Hebrew levels at every grade
- Individual tutoring and small group instruction to help students "catch-up"

4. Are there opportunities to learn another foreign language?

- We offer language classes in our after-school program
- Lerner is the ONLY school to provide daily foreign language instruction (K-5)
- Early exposure builds skills for future foreign language acquisition

5. Why should I send my child to a Jewish school?

- Gives each child a connection with his/her cultural identity
- Provides a strong sense of community
- Teaches strong positive values
- Celebrates the diversity of each person's Jewish identity
- Jewish literacy ensures Jewish continuity

6. Where will my child go to middle school?

- Lerner School students succeed at both public & private middle schools
- Successful admission into area private schools, including Durham Academy, Cary Academy, Duke School & Friends
- Historically, graduates are academically prepared and excel

7. To what extent do you standardize test, and how do your students perform?

- We administer the nationally-recognized Iowa Basic Skills Test at the end of 3rd grade
- Our students consistently place in the 90th percentile
- Our teachers do not have to “teach to the test”

8. I’m concerned that the school is not diverse enough.

- 30% Lerner School children are from inter-faith families
- 30% families are international, many of whom speak English as a second language (families from Israel, Argentina, Russia, France, India & Canada)
- Many families celebrate different holidays; students are encouraged to share their diverse experiences

9. Does Lerner offer enrichment classes?

- From preschool through 5th grade, each student has weekly specials with our experienced faculty: music, PE, art, media/library. Movement, drama, art & music are frequently woven into curriculum to enhance learning
- Technology is offered in grades 2nd – 5th grade

10. Do you have an after-school program?

- Yes, from 3pm – 5:30 daily
- We offer Chorus, piano, guitar, & violin lessons, Drama club, art & crafts, cooking, homework club & outside time